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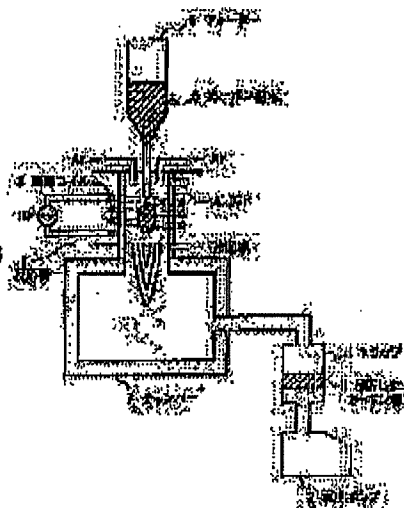
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(54) PRODUCTION OF FULLERENE AND CARBON NANOTUBE

(57)Abstract

PURPOSE: To synthesize fullerene and carbon nanotubes with good mass productivity.

CONSTITUTION: This method for synthesizing fullerene and carbon nanotubes comprises making Ar gas flow through the interior of a reaction tube 1 made of quartz glass, making a high-frequency electric current flow through an induction coil 3 wound around the periphery thereof under ≥ 100 Torr pressure, producing a thermal plasma 4, feeding powder 6 of carbon into the thermal plasma 4, evaporating and recombining the powder. Since the thermal plasma 4 produced by the high-frequency induction has a wide plasma region at a high temperature, a large amount of the carbon powder 6 can instantaneously be evaporated to synthesize large amounts of the fullerene and carbon nanotubes in a short time.

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